A Proposal To Establish The

L E X I N G T O N C O N S E R V A T O R Y T H E A T R E

Submitted By

THE LEAGUE OF THEATRE ARTISTS

May 10, 1976

Introduction and Summary

This is a request from the League of Theatre Artists in cooperation with Art Awareness, Inc. for your contribution to assist in our efforts to establish the Lexington Conservatory Theatre. It is our endeavor to produce a nine-week season of summer theatre to provide the Mountain-Top communities of Greene County, New York, with a vital entertainment outlet, and to institute a conservatory program of classes for local students to develop their skills and knowledge of the art of entertainment.

The Lexington Conservatory Theatre will utilize the skills of experienced actors, actresses, writers, directors and technicians and at the same time will open the doors for people in the surrounding areas to participate in a learning situation to increase their awareness in the specifics of theatre entertainment.

The theatre complex known as Lexington For the Performing Arts has been in full operation as a summer-theatre-camp until two years ago. There is much local inquiry and enthusiasm for plans in 1976. Your support will not only enable the complex to operate effectively, but will also create an opportunity for continued local participation.

Our proposal is divided into eight sections: Introduction and Summary, Theatre at Lexington, Objectives of the Project, Schedule of Events and Performances, Evaluation Procedures, Future Plans, The League of Theatre Artists Portfolio and the Budget.

It is our sincere hope that you will find our efforts worthwhile and we are willing to answer any questions you may have regarding the program.

THE LEAGUE OF THEATRE ARTISTS

Sherrie Ahlin
Bruce Bouchard
Thomas F. Culp
Dale C. Denkensohn
Oakley Hall III
Sands Hall
Kate Kellery
Sofia Landon
Larry C. Lott
Steve Nisbet
Steven Roth
Laralu Smith
Gracemarie Testani
Michael C. Van Landingham
Gretchen Van Ryper
Richard Zobel

Theatre At Lexington

Lexington For The Performing Arts, located at Lexington, New York in the beautiful Catskill Mountains, is a handsome complex of two fine theatres. Up until two years ago LPA had a good theatrical reputation for producing a large number of plays (primarily musicals) in conjunction with a children's summer camp which occupied the premices. The summer camp is no longer functioning and a vacuum has been created by the lack of entertainment in the area. It is the intention of the Lexington Conservatory Theatre to fill this vacuum to overflowing. To this end we have planned an ambitious season, to be coupled with an intensive community-involvement program. We undertake to develop a functioning, ongoing reperatory conservatory theatre, which will enhance the areas appeal as a vacation spot, and at the same time enrich it for those who already live there. This area includes the so-called Mountain-Top communities of Greene County, the summer residents and visitors to which number 100,000 or more people, of whom 5,000 may attend performances and 100 may attend conservatory sessions. The summer season of 1976 is a pilot program on a relatively modest scale. The potential for the future of the Lexington Conservatory Theatre is literally unlimited.

We understand that a Theatrical Society was founded in Lexington in 1883. It was also during that year that the historic Lexington House was completed. It is because of this theatrical tradition and for the sake of our artistic endeavor that we are interested to see that as many people as possible share in our program.

LEXINGTON HOUSE — LEXINGTON

LEXINGTON HOUSE

In the Heart of the Catskills, Open Throughout the Year

Elevation 1600 feet — Accommodation for 60 guests

This house is picturesquely located near Crystal Lake; affording boating, bathing, etc. The rooms are spacious and well-ventilated; the tables supplied with everything in season. Terms reasonable. For circular, address,

J. P. Van Valkenburgh,
Lexington, Greene Co., N. Y.

Objectives of the Project

We of the League of Theatre Artists will fulfill the following goals in order to establish the Lexington Conservatory Theatre at Lexington, New York in 1976:

* To make an artistic contribution to the Lexington communities and to present new concepts in the art of theatre entertainment to the people of the surrounding area.

* To promote and make realistic use of the Lexington complex to the best of our abilities with the resources available for local recognition of the facility itself and of the League of Theatre Artists.

* To produce a summer of theatre to include six (6) full length plays and a number of other entertainments to be performed in sequence.

* To produce a series of entertainment for young audiences.

* To provide an outlet for guest entertainers.

* To upgrade and maintain the theatre facilities in order to gain the highest quality artistic achievement.

* To educate young people by providing them with an outlet for participation in the specific arts of entertainment in an atmosphere geared to learning through performance.

Schedule of Events and Performances

May 30	Inagural Picnic -- The general public will be invited to bring a lunch to the meadow at the complex and a Blue Grass Band will perform.
June 13	Invitational Preview Performance and Reception -- Patrons and supporters will be invited.
July 7	Preview Performance and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony -- "Our Town" will be performed.
July 8 - 11	OUR TOWN by Thorton Wilder. The American classic will be directed by Michael C. Van Landingham.
July 15 - 18	CHARLEY'S AUNT by Brandon Thomas. A hilarious turn-of-the-century farce. Boy loses Girl, Boy impersonates Chaperone; the rest is this story. Directed by Bruce Bouchard.
July 22 - 25	LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EUNUCHS by David Halliwell. The rise and fall of a student revolutionary humbled by love. Directed by Oakley Hall III.
July 29 - August 1	A WEEKEND OF VARIED DELIGHTS including WORLD PREMIERE of a new fantasy for children PORTABLE ANNABELLE by Ed Wolf directed by Sherrie Ahlin, a schedule of one-act plays, staged readings of at least two brand new American plays, performances by guest artists, and more!
August 5 - August 8	THE ENCHANTED by Jean Giraudoux. In the end Love Conquers Death, in this mysterious play, as in Life. Directed by Michael C. Van Landingham.
August 12 - August 15	FRANKENSTEIN. The greatest horror story ever told. WORLD PREMIERE of a new adaptation from the novel by Mary Skelley. Directed by Michael C. Van Landingham and Oakley Hall III.
August 19 - August 22	OUR TOWN (repeat)
August 26 - August 29	FRANKENSTEIN (repeat)

Evaluation Procedures

Weekly staff meetings will be held during the season at which time production problems may be ironed out and changes or revisions to the activities of the company may be suggested.

Video-tapes will be made of each major production. These tapes will be viewed by those interested and feedback on the artistic quality of the work may be obtained.

At the close of the first season at Lexington, the League of Theatre Artists recommends the following procedures in order to discover how we may better serve the community:

* An opening meeting will be held to determine community desires and interests. All supporters will be invited to present their opinions as to the effectiveness of the program.

* Detailed statistics will be compiled to indicate the effectiveness of program advertising and to give us an idea as to the definition of the audience.

* A public mailing list will be established of all interested parties to determine how the community may best be served in the future.

The League of Theatre Artists will forward to all major funding sources by November 30, 1976, documented evidence of our effectiveness and a detailed analysis of the program which will invite further suggestions, improvements and critique.

Future Plans

After the first season at Lexington the League of Theatre Artists would like to use our increased knowledge of stagecraft, our ability to perform as a cooperative ensemble, and our heightened awareness of local theatrical taste and standards to begin work on the 1977 Summer Season. To this end, we will institute a year-round program for recruitment of local and New York-based writers, directors, technicians, musicians and performers.

With your help and knowledge we will seek additional financial support from Foundations and private donors on a local and national basis. With the tool of an active mailing list, we will be able to inform the Lexington communities of our future programs and entertainments.

League of Theatre Artists Portfolio

The following section serves to document the development and qualifications of the League since its inception. The portfolio includes:

* The Overview
* History of the League of Theatre Artists
* VLA Letter
* Biographies of the company members
* Lexington Conservatory Theatre Information (including: Progress To Date, Evelyn Weisberg letter, posters and newspaper clippings)

LEAGUE OF THEATRE ARTISTS

OVERVIEW

The League of Theatre Artists is a group of performers, writers, technicians, designers and directors who have assembled in New York to use their individual resources and capabilities collectively for the germination, evolution and presentation of theatre events.

Almost ten years ago many of the members of what is now the League of Theatre Artists worked together in a repertory theatre in California. Those members have been joined by other committed artists, and while continuing to develop their individual careers and expertise, all members in the group have devoted themselves to forging a dynamic theatrical collective,

Through observation, experimentation and performance, the League of Theatre Artists is evolving new works and new interpretations of existing works. The group seeks financial and physical systems of support which will forward the realization of projects in training, experimentation and production. The League is eager to ally itself with sympathetic cultural and artistic organizations, and to continue recruitment of multi-talented theatre artists. In order to attain these goals the League of Theatre Artists is soliciting direct or "in kind" assistance, whether individual or corporate, and whatever grants and endowments for which it may be eligible.

History of the League of Theatre Artists

Since November of 1975 when we, the League of Theatre Artists, began the formal and legal organization of the group, we have worked primarily toward this summer's Lexington Project. One of our first steps toward incorporation and grant-fundability was the submission of our project proposal to the Volunteer Lawyers For The Arts, a group which donates legal time and assistance to worthy organizations. The VLA accepted our proposal, and Ms. Leone Bernstein, Esq., our volunteer, is now dealing with the legal aspects of our operation. As of this writing our incorporation papers establishing the League as a Not-for-Profit Charitable Corporation are pending approval from the Department of State in the State of New York, and we have submitted registration papers to the Board of Social Welfare of the State of New York. Extensive funding research has been completed at the Foundation Center in New York City. Other contacts include FEDAP and the Cultural Council Foundation. Both of these organizations serve new theatre groups, and we look forward to learning more from each.

Our first official project was a video-tape production of two new one-act plays by the California playwright, Ramona Moon. These two plays were rehearsed in a theatre space made possible by Tosos Theatre, Inc. in downtown Manhattan, and the project was taped on equipment made available by Mr. Dek Tillett of Hillsdale, New York. This tape will be aired on Public Access Channel D in Manhattan.

rcd 3/11/76

volunteer lawyers for the arts

March 4, 1976

Mr. Michael C. Van Landingham
American Theatre Artists Cooperative
200 West 72nd Street
Suite 37
New York, N.Y. 10023

Dear Mr. Van Landingham:

This is to inform you that Leone Bernstein, Esq. has agreed to meet with you regarding your legal problem and is expecting your call the middle of next week at 9[illegible]

Since the success of our volunteer legal representation program has been due in large part to the joint efforts of the attorneys and clients working together, I urge you to cooperate to the fullest extent possible with your volunteer so that she will be more able to serve you. Thus, if you can promptly furnish her with the information and materials she asks for, the matter will be more quickly resolved.

There are no fees charged for legal services, either by VLA or the volunteer lawyers. However, you will be responsible for all applicable filing fees, discovery expenses, court costs and the like, in addition to incidental out-of-pocket expenses incurred by your volunteer in connection with representation. Questions regarding legal disbursements should be raised with your volunteer at the initial interview.

VLA would like to stress that its function is to establish communication between you and the volunteer attorney. This having been accomplished, you and the attorney will have the usual one-to-one attorney-client relationship, a relationship to which VLA is not a party. However, if any problems or questions should arise in connection with this or any other legal matter, please be sure to call on us; if you find the VLA program a useful service we would like to know about that as well.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter by phone or mail.

Cordially,

Freda Mindlin
Administrator

FM/ig

Biographies

SHERRIE AHLIN, director of the Children's Theatre for the League of Theatre Artists and for the Lexington Conservatory Theatre has done theatre in New York and in Florida. She played Alexandra in "The Little Foxes" and Emily in "Our Town" for Ten Ten Players, the Good Fairy in "The Sleeping Beauty" and Agnes in "The Drunkard" for Bi-Racial Arts, and the Princess in "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" at the Courtyard Playhouse. Other roles include Julia in "A Delicate Balance", Tessie in "The Lottery", Lotus Blossom in "Teahouse of the August Moon" and Judith in "The Devil's Disciple". She has been recognized for her talents in make-up and for her work with children; both areas hold a special interest for her. Sherrie has studied at HB Studio and is presently a scholarship student at The Lee Strasberg Institute in New York City.

BRUCE BOUCHARD, actor and instructor, has appeared in many roles in New York City and around the country. His most recent performance was "The Old Glory" at the American Place Theatre. His Off-Broadway credits include the role of Paul Granger III in "The Hot L Baltimore" at the Circle In The Square, Billy Bibbitt in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" at the Mercer Arts Center and a long run in "James Joyce Memorial Liquid Theatre" at the Guggenheim Museum. He has appeared as Bob Rettie in the national tour of "Moonchildren" directed by John Pasquin and "Finishing Touches" with Barbara Bel Geddes and Robert Lansing. His Off-Off Broadway credits include "From Now to Then" by Leslie Lee at the New Dramatists and "The Pledge" at the Clark Center for the Performing Arts. Regional credits include "Echoes" and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" at Stage/West in Springfield, Mass., "Your Own Thing", "Hamlet", "Tartuffe" and "La Ronde" at the American Conservatory Theatre. He also has appeared in "Carousel", "Becket", "St. Joan" and "Man of La Mancha" at the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts and in "Spofford" and "The Devils Advocate" at the Laguna Moulton Playhouse. Mr. Bouchard's excellent instruction was witnessed by children ages 11-18 at Lexington for the Performing Arts in the fall of 1975.

THOMAS F. CULP, Treasurer for the League of Theatre Artists and Executive Producer of the Lexington Conservatory Theatre, aside from working as a TV Spot Buyer at Ted Bates New York/Advertising, has produced many segments for the show, "The Artist In New York", which aired in the spring of 1976 on Manhattan Cable in New York City. He has worked on public relations, advertising and promotion efforts for American Airlines, United Jewish Appeal, Colgate Palmolive, Warner Lambert and a number of other firms and associations in New York. Other endeavors produced and directed by Mr. Culp include "Two Plays By Ramona Moon" (soon to be released), "Short Plays For TV", "The Sandbox" (a play), "The Marriage Proposal" (a play) and "The Real Inspector Hound". Tom is a member of the Young Friends of City Center, the Saint Bartholomew Community Club and the Pines Conservation Society.

KATE KELLERY, actress and instructor, was last seen on Broadway in "Skin Of Our Teeth" directed by Jose Quintero. Her numerous other acting credits include Emma in "Red Blue Grass Western Flyer Show" at St. Clements, Barbara Allen in "Dark Of the Moon" at the Walden Theatre and Elsie in the national tour of "Finishing Touches" with Barbara Bel Geddes and Robert Lansing. Her regional and stock credits include "Woyzeck", "Once Upon A Mattress", "A Night with Cole Porter" and "Arturo Ui" at the Williamstown Theatre, Williamstown, Massachusetts; "Alice in Wonderland", "Portrait of an Artist" and "Hamlet" at the Manning Street Actors Theatre in Philadelphia; "Hedda Gabler", "Roar of the Greasepaint" and "Mary, Mary" at the Pocono Crest Theatre. Kate attended the Webster College, Temple University, and received a MFA degree in acting at Catholic University. She was very well received as an instructor at Lexington and her latest endeavor is opera singing.

SOFIA LANDON, actress, instructor and co-ordinator of the Lexington Conservatory Theatre's Program of Classes has had numerous experiences on stage, and in films and television. She appeared in "Murph The Surf", a major film, was seen in "The Rookies", "Marcus Welby MD" and "Medical Center" on television, and most recently appeared in the Equity Library Theatre's production, "Missouri Legend". Ms. Landon appeared in "Oh Calcutta" on Broadway, in "The Red White and Black" written and directed by Eric Bently and in "The Anarchist", a one-woman show at the La Mama Theatre Club in Manhattan. She has appeared in many stock productions and at dinner theatres including the Barn Dinner Theatte in St. Louis, the Avondale Dinner Theatre in Indianapolis, the Rustic Barn Dinner Theatre in Chicago. She graduated from Northwestern University and has studied with Uta Hagan at HB Studios in New York, with Nina Foch in Los Angeles, at the Film Industry Workshops Inc, and at the Lee Strasberg Institute. She is planning to expand her career as a director. Ms. Landon directed several productions while a student at Northwestern University and worked as resident associate director for "Sunday In New York" and "The Little Foxes" with the Megaw Theatre in Los Angeles. Her study at Northwestern included an intensive creative dramatics program with emphasis on children's theatre. Ms. Landon through the LCT Program of Classes will advance her talent and interest in directing, making use of her teaching and administrative capabilities.

LARRY C. LOTT, who has been seen at the American Shakespeare Theatre in "Anthony and Cleopatra," "Julius Ceasar," and as Pendarus in the journeyman production of "Troilus and Cressida," has also appeared off-off-Broadway at the WPA, the Clark Center (Playwright's Horizons), St. Clement's, the Mercer Arts Center and the American Theatre Company. He has worked and trained in regional repertory at ACT in San Francisco, the Little Theatre at the Rockies in Colorado, and the Utah Shakespeare Festival. Mr. Lott graduated from the University of California with a BA in Drama and received an MA from the University of Pittsburgh after spending an academic year as guest artist with a grant from the Charles E. Merrill Foundation. At the University of Pittsburgh he portrayed Petruchio in "The Taming of the Shrew," Argante in "Scapin" and Topeau in "Le Mariage de Barillon" and directed Sam Shepard's "The Mad Dog Blues". While traveling and studying last year in Europe, Larry also acting and directed at the Questors Theatre in London.

STEVE NISBET, has done much television work including "Search For Tommorrow" on CBS, "Marcus Welby MD", "Mod Squad", "Room 222" and "Hooked". His stage credits include "The James Joyce Memorial Liquid Theater" at the Guggenheim Museum, "Butterflies Are Free" at the Brown Theater in Louisville, "Hamlet", "The Crucible" and "Your Own Thing" at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, and "Fiddler On The Roof" for Honolulu Light Opera. Steve has made many cabaret appearances in New York including the Persian Room, Reno Sweeney's, Paxtons and also at the Aruba Carribbean Hotel, and the Concord and Stevesville Hotels in the Catskills. He has done numerous commercials for television and radio and made quite an impression with his make-up instruction classes at Lexington For the Performing Arts.

STEVEN ROTH, has acted in many roles across the United States. He played Terence in "The Tenderloin" at the Equity Library Theatre in New York City, he appeared in "The Dream-Makers", an NBC Movie of the Week, and in "Trash Trouble" for Portland Public Television. He also appeared in "The Front", a TBCII Production with Woody Allen. His regional and stock credits include Yaschka in "The Dybbuk" at the Mark Taper Forum, Laertes in "Hamlet" at the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Joe in "The Show-off" at the Little Theatre of the Rockies and Cocky in "The Roar of the Greasepaint", and Hans in "Cabaret" at the Irvine Repertory Theatre. Steven received a BA in Drama with Honors from the University of California at Irvine and has studied acting with Margo Albert, Curt Conway and Robert Ellenstein.

LARALU SMITH has appeared in many roles including Estelle in "No Exit", Emily in "Hello Out There", Lora in "Impromptu" for the Ohio State University Players; as Ergo in "The Golden Circle" at Northwestern, as Parks in "Children At Play" in a premier with Eileen Heckart at the Ohio State Summer Festival where she did Ruby in "Dames At Sea." She played Mildred in "Cinderella" at the Courtyard Playhouse and Kitty Duval in "The Time of Your Life" at Players Club in Ohio. She also appeared in "No No Nanette" at Bartke's Dinner Theatre in Tampa. Ms. Smith has received a MA in Theatre from Northwestern University and a BA from Ohio State University. She has danced with the Northwestern University Orchesis Concert. Her film credits include Peggy in "An Easy Departure" and she has done several industrials for Saga Productions, Inc. in New York City. She has appeared on several television shows in Columbus Ohio.

GRACEMARIE TESTANI, Director of Fund Raising and Long Range Planning for the League of Theatre Artists has worked extensively in the Foundation Center, Inc. Ms. Testani's stage credits include Off-off Broadway productions in New York--"Sleeping Beauty", "Dress Made of Diamonds" and "The Drunkard". She has worked in Regional Theatre in Binghamton, New York on "West Side Story", "Sound of Music," "South Pacific" and "Guys and Dolls". She has appeared in the film "Godfather II". Ms. Testani worked as a Ward Team Coordinator for the Kingsboro Psychiatric Center for the New York State Civil Service where whe supervised 20 staff members. She was also instrumental in originating the Discharge Planning Unit at the Jewish Hospital and Medical Center of Brooklyn. Her education includes voice study with Jutta Rose, acting at George Morrison Studios in New York, music theory with John Sarracco, mime with Keith Berger; she attended the Russell Sage College in Troy New York and received a double BA in Psychology and Philosophy from New York University. Her honors include Dean's List. Gracemarie has numerous other interests including creative cooking, traveling, music composing, and tennis.

GRETCHEN VAN RYPER, Secretary for the League of Theatre Artists, was born in Hollywood during an earthquake. Gretchen was educated at the University of California at Irvine where she appeared as the Crieress in "The Congress-women". Her New York City credits include "Boy Meets Boy" at the Actors Playhouse, "I Am A Camera" at Tosos, "The Siblings" at the Next Stage Co., and "Sleeping Beauty" for Bi-Racial Arts. She appeared in "The Killing of Sister George" and "The Death of Bessie Smith" at the American Conservatory Theatre. Ms. Van Ryper has appeared as Lucy Locket in "The Beggars Opera" for the Found Theatre, as Adelaide in "Guys and Dolls" at the Cerritos Summer Theatre and as Cecily in "The Importance of Being Ernest" at the Seal Beach Summer Festival. She has many other interests including work for the Salmagundi Art Club and the Playwrights Unit of NYSF with Ed Bullins.

MICHAEL C. VAN LANDINGHAM, Executive Director of the League of Theatre Artists and the Lexington Conservatory Theatre has extensive background in administration, direction both theatrical and technical, and education. He was Artistic Director for Cerritos College Summer Musical Program, a program which he created; he was Technical Director for the Bernight Center Theatre Complex; and Artistic Director for Drama Workshop at the University of California--Irvine. Mr. Van Landingham has directed "The Love Apple" (book and lyrics by Ron Thronson), "Guys and Dolls" (Cerritos College Summer Musical Program), "Three From Albee" (as traveling repertory in the South Seas, Far and Middle East and Africa), "Hootsudie" (at the Actors Studio West--Merle Oberon Playhouse in Hollywood produced by Lou Antonio and Burgess Meredith) and numerous other works. His technical direction includes the national tour of the Bella Louisky Dance Company and "Camino Real". Mr. Van Landingham has received a MFA and BA from the University of California at Irvine, where he was a Leon Goodman Fellow, an AA from Orange Coast College where he was a member of the Deans List, received the best director award and a Drama Club Scholarship. He has taught lighting design, set design, technical production and musical comedy performance at Cerritos College in Norwalk, California, and acting beginning and intermediate at the University of California--Irvine. He is a member of the University Teachers Association, the California Teachers Association and the US Institute of Theatre Technology, and has a lifetime credential for Theatre Arts and all related Technologies. Michael has many other interests including skiing, aquatic sports, backpacking, fishing, music and philosophy; his travels have been extensive and worldwide.

RICHARD ZOBEL has most recently returned from a marionnette show tour of the Eastern States. He has made numerous cabaret appearances in New York including Paxtons and St. Clements Cabaret. He appeared as Terrible Jim in "Terrible Jim Fitch" at the Cubiculo Theatre in Manhattan. His regional acting credits include Jim Crocket in "Arturo Ui", Drue Drury in "Mary Stuart" and "Once In a Lifetime" for the Williamstown Summer Theatre, he played Skelly in "The Rimers of Eldritch" for the Perce Players and Michael in "The Boys In the Band" for Group Theatre East. He played John Adams in "It Happened Here" for the Philadelphia Bi-Centennial. Richard's special talents include mandolin, banjo and guitar.

Lexington Conservatory Theatre Information

The League of Theatre Artists has begun preparation for a long and exciting summer at Lexington, New York. Two plays are already in rehearsal and two more are scheduled to begin work shortly. On February 28 key League members started weekend projects at the Lexington complex. Many upgrading and facility maintenance problems have been solved. Initial community contacts have been made with individuals and organizations in the area including: various Bi-Centennial groups, the Greene County Council of the Arts, the Greene County Historical Society and the Catskill Players. A proposal was submitted to Art Awareness, Inc. for the summer of 1977, which was in turn submitted to the New York State Council for the Arts.

We intend for the Lexington Conservatory Theatre to produce 6 plays in 9 weeks. To accomplish this we must house and feed 28 actors, directors and technicians. No member will receive a salary or any remuneration. The company plans to move to the complex on June 1. We are working for the love of the project, and with hopes for the future. Anyone who shares that love and those hopes is more than welcome to help.

LEXINGTON
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

82-19 GRENFELL STREET, KEW GARDENS, N. Y. • HI 1-3030
LEXINGTON, NEW YORK • 989-6620 — 989-6646

April 24, 1976

Mr. Michael C. Van Buddingham
League of Theatre Artists
15 Jay Street
New York, 10013

Dear Mr. Van Buddingham:

I am happy to receive your project proposal for the Summer of 1976, and I look forward to the realization of your plans. It was a pleasure working with Bruce and Kate last year.

It is my goal to witness a creative endeavor at L.P.A. and to this end I am willing to make the facilities available for your use during the summer. As you realize I am also interested in your funding ideas and am willing to help with your efforts in this area.

I am proud of the work done in the past at L.P.A. by other theatre professionals, and I am pleased to welcome you to Lexington.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Weissberg,
Director

EW: gvr

LCT 1976

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lexington
conservatory
theatre

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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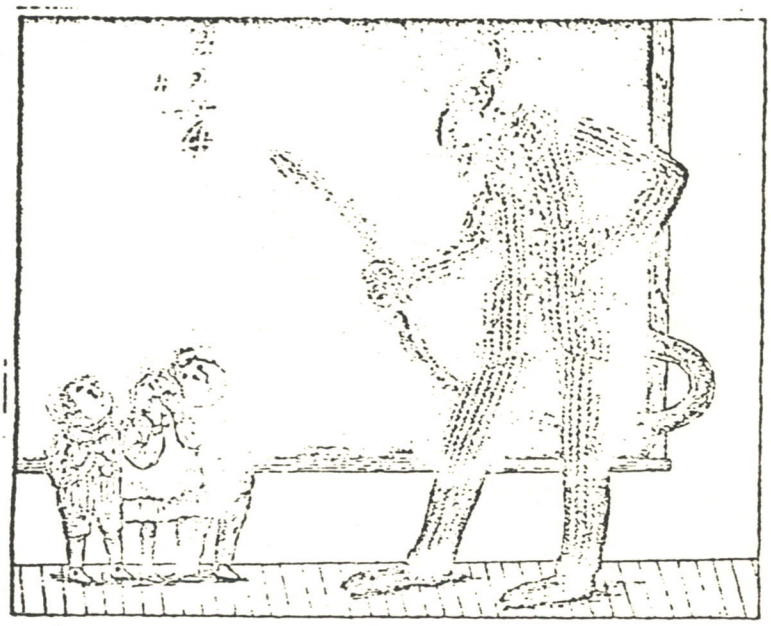
take a break!



the
lexington
conservatory
theatre
announces

A STUDENT SUMMER WORKSHOP

THIS SUMMER GET OUT OF THE HOUSE AND ON STAGE IN AN EXCITING SIX WEEK WORKSHOP OF THEATRE! CLASSES WILL INCLUDE MOVEMENT, ACTING, MIME THEATRE GAMES AND TECHNICAL THEATRE. WORKING ON ACTUAL PRODUCTIONS, INCLUDING A NEW VERSION OF FRANKSTEIN, STUDENTS WILL WORK WITH THE RESIDENT COMPANY IN EVERY ASPECT OF PRODUCTION!

FOR MORE INFO WRITE SOFIA LANDON/LEXINGTON SUMMER WORKSHOP
c/o LEXINGTON CONSERVATORY THEATRE ROUTE 42,LEXINGTON N.Y. 12452

Conservatory Theatre Formed

An exciting summer is in store for everyone at Lexington for the Performing Arts. The League of Theatre Artists, in cooperation with Lexington for the Performing Arts, Inc. and Art Awareness, Inc. of Lexington has established the Lexington Conservatory Theatre.

This new company plans to produce a number of full length plays including: Charley's Aunt, Spoon River, The Enchanted, Hail Scrawdyke, Frankenstein and several other new and traditional works. In addition, marionette shows and cabaret acts are planned.

Work has already started at Lexington to upgrade the facilities and ready the complex for full operations starting in June. There will be an inaugural picnic, ribbon cutting ceremony and a reception for project patrons and supporters and other events.

In addition to performances, L.C.T.'s conservatory program will offer community members a chance to work with professionals in a classroom situation. Among available classes will be acting, technical theatre and production.

"A good time," says Oakley Hall III, artistic director, "will be had by all. That, combined with creative hard work, is what L.C.T. is all about."

The goal of the project is to establish a continuing artistic program for the enjoyment and education of audience members and every effort is being made to contact and recruit all interested in participating. The Lexington Conservatory group plans to canvass the Mountain Top for audience members, performers and prospective advertisers and patrons. Not only is support sought, but the Conservatory group is quite anxious to receive any and all ideas as to what the community would like to see, hear and experience. The Lexington Conservatory Theatre will be happy to furnish more information about the projects planned for this and succeeding summers. All inquiries should be made to Lexington Conservatory Theatre, Lexington, N.Y. 12452.

The Daily Mail, Wed., May 5, 1976,

New Theatre Company Formed in Lexington

By HILDE SCHUSTER

LEXINGTON - Residents of the Mountain Top who enjoy theatre will no longer have to travel off the Mountain to attend professional performances. Recently a new theatre company, called "The League of Theatre Artists" has established under Judd Weisberg's Art Awareness Inc. program, a Lexington Conservatory Theatre.

In addition to presenting professional theatre for the enjoyment of the community, the Lexington Conservatory Theatre will be holding workshops for children and adults. The people who are members of the company are professionals, in the fields of acting, directing, teaching, writing, and technical aspects of production. Many have degrees in theatre and related arts from leading universities throughout the country.

While achieving a high artistic level, the group will be giving every consideration to communication with their audience. A spokesman for the company stated that the members of the Lexington Conservatory Theatre are "sincerely interested in communication".

Besides having a company of professionals, the Lexington Conservatory Theatre will be recruiting persons from the community who are interested in the technical side of theatrical productions, and in other aspects as well, such as still photography.

The theatre season will commence around the last week in June. Among the performances scheduled for the summer will be "Spoon River", which will probably be the first in the series, and will have for an executive director, Michael Van Landingham. The company will also perform Giradoux's play "The Enchanted". For this play, the company hopes to recruit local children for acting roles. "Charlie's Aunt" will also be presented with Bruce Bouchard, a working actor of New York City, as director.

Another presentation which is planned for this summer will be a new version of "Frankenstein", based mainly on Mary Shelley's novel, and with an emphasis on improvisation. This particular project will be done jointly with the Sonora Music Festival.

The music festival with Judith Martin, an electronic music composer, will place emphasis on electronic and avant-garde musical forms. This music festival will incorporate avant garde forms fo theatre, music and light.

The music festival will start July 5 and will continue for six weeks. The concert series is also being established under Art Awareness Inc. of Lexington. In addition to the concerts, the music festival plans workshops in synthesiser techniques and improvisation. The musicians involved in the festival, according to Judtih Martin, have very distinct personalities and possess the ability to communicate through their music.

Both the Lexington Conservatory Theatre and the Sonora Music Festival will be seeking the support of the community. Anyone interested in participation, or in attending performances this summer can direct inquiries to the Lexington Conservatory Theatre, Lexington, N.Y. 12452.

CELEBRATE SUMMER WITH LCT 1976

lexington conservatory theatre

COME CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER WITH LEXINGTON'S EXCITING ALL NEW SUMMER THEATRE GROUP! SUNDAY MAY 30TH LCT INVITES YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO PICNIC ON OUR MOUNTAIN AND STROLL BY THE RIVER. THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF LIVE BLUE GRASS MUSIC, BEER, AND BALLOONS FOR THE KIDS! YOU CAN TOUR OUR TWO THEATRES AND MEET THE ACTORS. LCT HOPES TO CREATE A NEW CENTER FOR THEATRE AND MUSIC THIS SUMMER AND THIS IS OUR WAY OF SAYING HELLO! AFTER CHURCH ON SUNDAY PACK A BASKET AND COME SPEND A LAZY AFTERNOON HIGH ON A HILL. WHAT A PERFECT WAY TO START YOUR SUMMER!

TAKE ROUTE 42 TO THE LEXINGTON POST OFFICE
WE'RE JUST ACROSS THE BRIDGE.

SEE YOU SUNDAY!

LCT
1976
lexington
conservatory
theatre

The League of Theatre Artists
Cordially Invites You
to Attend

A Cocktail Celebration

for

The Lexington Conservatory Theatre

on

May 24, 1976

from six to eight pm

at

853 Seventh Avenue #8 F
(between fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth street)

:

R.S.V.P to our service — 799-9190

We will gladly accept your tax-deductable contribution.
Please make your check payable to:

Art Awareness, Inc. / LCT

Lexington Conservatory Theatre BUDGET for Summer, 1976

Operating Stipends				
Executive Director	$ 100**			
Artistic Director	100**			
Technical Director	100			
Business Manager	100			
Secretarial	25			
Sub-total		$ 425		
Pre-production				
Facility Security	450			
Operation	475			
Telephone	75			
Transportation	500			
Sub-total		1500		
Utilities		1500		
Insurance		2000		
Rent		3000**		
Cost of Living (Food)		3402		
Classroom Supplies		250		
Printing				
Programs	150			
Promotion	50			
Postage	100			
Stationary	50			
Scripts	50			
Tickets	25			
Sub-total		425		
Rights & Royalities		500		
Equipment				
Lighting	300			
Sound (misc)	50			
Video-tape	100			
Sub-total		450		
General Reserve		1548		
TOTAL			$15000	
Less Funds already committed (see **)			(3200)	
Less Other Income				
Ticket Sales		(5163)		
Program Advertising		(750)		
Subscriptions		(925)		
Class Tuition		(300)		
Sub-total			(7138)	
GRAND TOTAL (Income Outstanding as of this date)				$4662

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The League of Theatre Artists will gladly accept your donation to our endeavor which is deductible for income tax purposes. Substantial gifts are acknowledged in the Lexington Conservatory Theatre Program as follows:

Founder $500 or more

Patron $100 - $499

Donor $50 - $99

Friend $49 or less

Supporters of the Lexington Conservatory Theatre will also receive by November 30, 1976 a report on the growth of the project.

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Checks should be made payable to:

ART AWARENESS, INC. / L. C. T.

and given to a League Member or mailed to:

LEXINGTON CONSERVATORY THEATRE
Lexington, New York
12452

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